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Commission on Narcotic Drugs
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Item 5 of the provisional agenda*
Implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem: follow-up to the high-level review by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, in view of the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016

Belarus, Russian Federation and Tajikistan: draft resolution

Developing timely and effective legislative, regulatory and administrative responses to emerging new psychoactive substances

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Recalling its resolutions 55/1 of 16 March 2012, 56/4 of 15 March 2013, 57/9 of 21 March 2014, 58/3 of 17 March 2015, 58/11 of 17 March 2015 and other resolutions that address the issue of new psychoactive substances,

Acknowledging the adverse impacts and risks to public health and safety posed by new psychoactive substances,

Recognizing that there are still gaps in the knowledge about harm to public health and safety produced by new psychoactive substances,

Concerned that new psychoactive substances have effects similar to those of internationally controlled drugs,

Deeply concerned about the combination of the diversity and the speed with which new psychoactive substances emerge and spread and the role that the Internet and the media play in the trade in and promotion of these substances, which often requires swift adaptation of national regulatory frameworks and changes in the scheduling of new psychoactive substances subject to international control,

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Concerned about the potential opportunities for transnational organized criminal groups to exploit the market for these substances,

Highlighting progress that has been achieved by some Member States in identifying, monitoring and reporting on new psychoactive substances,

Recognizing the importance of having in place appropriate national legislative, regulatory and administrative policies that can respond to emerging new psychoactive substances in a timely and effective manner, as such substances continue to be developed and come on the market,

Welcoming the efforts of some Member States to develop timely and effective legislative, regulatory and administrative responses to emerging new psychoactive substances,

Taking note of the different legislative, regulatory and administrative approaches adopted by Member States to address the problem of emerging new psychoactive substances such as legislation on controlled substance analogues, generic laws based on chemical structures of substances, full regulatory approaches, temporary, provisional or emergency control measures, rapid scheduling procedures and actions in the area of public health, including those relating to pharmaceutical products, consumer protection and hazardous substances,

Recognizing that the different approaches used for controlling new psychoactive substances have practical advantages and risks, and that there is no single standard response to effectively tackle new psychoactive substances,

Acknowledging the valuable work of the global Synthetics Monitoring: Analysis, Reporting and Trends programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the collection of information on new psychoactive substances,

Acknowledging also the value of the early warning advisory on new psychoactive substances of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and the ongoing success of the Project Ion Incident Communication System of the International Narcotics Control Board, in improving understanding of the problem of new psychoactive substances,

Recognizing the work of the World Health Organization in the provision of scheduling recommendations regarding new psychoactive substances to the Commission,

Welcoming the report of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime entitled *The Challenge of New Psychoactive Substances*, published in March 2013, which provides a comprehensive overview of the nature and magnitude of the problem of new psychoactive substances,

1. *Emphasizes* the importance of developing timely and effective legislative, regulatory and administrative responses to emerging new psychoactive substances in order to reduce harm to public health and safety;

2. *Encourages* Member States to respond swiftly and effectively to the emergence of new psychoactive substances by developing timely and effective legislative, regulatory and administrative responses;

3. *Recommends* that Member States consider adopting legislative, regulatory and administrative policies such as legislation on controlled substance

analogues, generic laws based on chemical structures of substances, full regulatory approaches, temporary, provisional or emergency control measures, rapid scheduling procedures, and actions in the area of public health, including those relating to pharmaceutical products, consumer protection and hazardous substances;

4. *Calls* on Member States to exchange information through bilateral and multilateral channels on legislative, regulatory and administrative responses they adopt in order to effectively tackle the threat posed by new psychoactive substances;

5. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to provide technical assistance to Member States, in particular to developing countries, upon their request, to develop timely and effective legislative, regulatory and administrative responses to emerging new psychoactive substances;

6. *Encourages* Member States to consider providing technical assistance for these purposes through bilateral and multilateral channels;

7. *Invites* Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary resources for these purposes, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations.